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Testing under way on Dawn spacecraft

KSC part of joint hurricane exercise beginning May 7



◆ **ELV Update:**

The "command and data handling" portion of the Comprehensive Performance Test was completed on the **Dawn** spacecraft April 19. Additional comprehensive performance tests are in progress. Thermal control system, attitude control sub-system and fault protection testing continues.

Dawn's mission will mark the first time a spacecraft will orbit two planetary bodies on a single voyage: asteroid Vesta and the dwarf planet Ceres. NASA's Dawn spacecraft is managed by the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, Calif.

NASA's Launch Services Program at Kennedy Space Center and the United Launch Alliance are responsible for the launch of the Delta II.

◆ **Joint Hurricane Exercise:**

KSC, Cape Canaveral Air Force Station and the 45th Space Wing will participate in a simulated hurricane event from May 7 to 11. The exercise will be run in conjunction with the state's exercise, "Hurricane Tolbert," a strong Category 4 hurricane that threatens the Space Coast.

The primary objectives of the exercise are coordinating HURCON declarations between the 45th Space Wing commander and KSC center director; establishing a communications network between the Spaceport Emergency Opera-

tions Center, or EOC, and organizational hurricane coordinators; and reviewing and updating supporting plans, procedures and checklists.

Real-time involvement includes staffing the Spaceport EOC and notifying hurricane coordinators who will report their organization's status back to the EOC. Other than communications, all other actions will be simulated.

This exercise gives us the opportunity to dust off our plans and procedures and prepare for what is expected to be a busy hurricane season.

■ **Professional Development Seminar** — Tools for Technology is a full day of workshops on May 17 sponsored by the Society of Women Engineers. The workshop will be held at the Radisson Resort at the Port in Cape Canaveral. The keynote speaker is Nancy Stewart, senior vice president of Wal-Mart. Come learn about global warming; is there really an "inconvenient truth"? Learn the latest in nanotechnology and what is new for the unmanned systems in future development. There are sessions on Lean and CMMI for the continuous process improvement, as well as how to balance your life. Registration information is available at swe-sc.org or contact Judy Kersey at 783-4644.

■ **Construction Sites Off Limits** — Several new construction and demolition projects have begun and there has been evidence of unauthorized entries and theft of property at the sites. KSC and CCAFS employees and contractors are reminded that construction sites (including demolition sites) and abandoned facilities are

closed to all personnel except those authorized to be within those sites. These areas are hazardous, with dangers from heavy equipment, demolition debris, hazardous material abatement, energized equipment, etc. In addition, please be aware that all property within these areas is government property and any unauthorized removal of such will be prosecuted to the fullest extent, including dismissal. Suspicious activity around such sites should be reported immediately to the Duty Office at 853-5211.



■ **Help the Sea Turtles** — The sea turtle nesting season officially began on

May 1. The season runs until Oct. 31.

Adults have already begun nesting on our beaches at KSC. Be aware that artificial exterior lighting is harmful to both nesting adults and new hatchlings. Artificial lights, such as those on structures near the beaches and even the KSC Industrial Area, will disorient the turtles away from the ocean. So please, turn off all unnecessary exterior lights. Let's give the turtles a break.

For more information, log on to the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission Web site at myfwc.com/seaturtle/Lighting/Lighting_Course.htm.

Countdown is published every Tuesday & Thursday for NASA KSC employees. Deadlines are 10 a.m. Mondays & Wednesdays. E-mail news to anita.barrett@jbosc.ksc.nasa.gov. For questions or information, e-mail or call 321-867-2815. You can also find *Countdown* on the Web at nasa.gov/centers/kennedy/news/countdown/countdown-toc.html.

Mark Your Calendars — The Black Employee Strategy Team BBQ will be held at KARS I from 3 to 6 p.m. on June 22.